IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Anne Boullin et al.

Entitled: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING A DEHYDRATED FOOD PRODUCT

FROM A WET PLANT MATERIAL

Serial No.: To be assigned

Date Filed: July 20, 2001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application, Applicants respectfully request that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

In the Claims:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c) (3), please substitute for pending claims 4, 5 and 7-9 with the following clean version of the claims. The changes to these claims are shown explicitly in the attached "Marked Up Version of Claims."

- 4. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the said spreading of oil is carried out by coating the wall with the aid of a roller.
- 5. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the said spreading of oil is carried out by spraying, in particular by micro-spraying.
- 7. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the film of vegetable oil is distributed intermittently.
- 8. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that palm oil is used.
- 9. (Amended) Process according to Claim 1, characterized in that the wet plant material is a fruit and/or vegetable purée.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS

- 4. (Amended) Process according to [one of Claims 1 to 3] <u>Claim 1</u>, characterized in that the said spreading of oil is carried out by coating the wall with the aid of a roller.
- 5. (Amended) Process according to [one of Claims 1 to 3] <u>Claim 1</u>, characterized in that the said spreading of oil is carried out by spraying, in particular by micro-spraying.
- 7. (Amended) Process according to [one of Claims 1 to 6] <u>Claim 1</u>, characterized in that the film of vegetable oil is distributed intermittently.
- 8. (Amended) Process according to [one of Claims 1 to 7] <u>Claim 1</u>, characterized in that palm oil is used.
- 9. (Amended) Process according to [one of Claims 1 to 8] <u>Claim 1</u>, characterized in that the wet plant material is a fruit and/or vegetable purée.